

[4th February 1925]

Mr. M. RATNASWAMI :—"Of course, they are not. It is open to the Hindu community as a whole to move the High Court and change the rules so as to admit members of the Tiyya community and other depressed classes into the hostel."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"If there is a desire to give benefit to the orthodox community, I do not quarrel with that intention and by all means let them do so. But I want to know if they are not going to respect our sentiments and feelings as well."

### UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

#### Emigration.

##### *Wages of coolies in the Assam tea estates.*

65 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have since obtained any reply from the Government of Assam in regard to the wages paid to the coolies, the nature of work they are employed upon, etc., and if they have, whether they will place copies of the correspondence that has passed between them on the table of the House;

(b) whether five annas represents the normal wage in the Assam tea estates for hoeing and pruning an area of 3,500 square feet and whether there are many other estates in which the wages are either above or less than the scale referred to above; and

(c) the scale of wages at which coolies employed in plucking leaves in the Assam tea estates are remunerated?

A.—(a) & (b) The only correspondence which the Government have had with the Government of Assam later than that contained in the papers which were laid on the table of the House on 19th November 1924 has been a telegraphic inquiry made with reference to this question. The reply received is to the effect that normal wages in the tea estates for hoeing cannot be definitely stated as tasks vary with season, locality, soil and depth of cultivation. Roughly, the coolies get from three to five annas for work which may vary from deep hoeing an area of 1,700 square feet to light hoeing an area of 4,300 square feet. Work outside the task work is always available and eight hours' work earns at least eight annas, usually considerably more. Pruning is done in cold weather and paid by the number of bushes pruned—generally the wages are one anna for pruning eight bushes.

(c) One pice per pound for fine plucking and a little less for coarse plucking.

#### Jails.

##### *The whereabouts of Mr. Nilakanta Brahmachari.*

66 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) where Nilakanta Brahmachari, who was convicted by the Madras High Court in 1922-23 for some political offence, is now confined;



4th February 1925]

(b) whether he was in Rajahmundry jail in the beginning of the year and whether he was removed to Montgomery jail at Lahore;

(c) whether he is now alive at all; and, if so, the present state of his health and his weight;

(d) what is the labour which he is now put on;

(e) whether it is true that he is now dead, and if so, whether the fact was communicated to any of his relatives or friends; and

(f) whether it is a fact that his death was due to ill-treatment in jail as his relatives believe?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the reply to question No. 43.

*Memorial regarding Muslim convicts in jail.*

67 Q.—MR. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether he has received any memorial from the Majlisul-Ulamas, Trichinopoly, about Muslim convicts in jail; and

(b) what action the Government propose to take thereon?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The memorial has been considered and orders passed and communicated to the memorialists.

**Civil Justice.**

*Pay of copyists in the Judicial Department.*

68 Q.—MR. V. HAMID SULTAN MARAKKAYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received memorials from the copyists of the Judicial Department in March 1924 praying that their pay may be fixed on the same scale as that of the lowest grade clerks and that their posts be made pensionable or that they may be permitted to contribute to the Provident fund system as in the case of teachers under private and public management;

(b) whether it is a fact that, on the High Court's recommendation, Government sanctioned revision of pay for the pensionable section of the copyists' section of the Judicial Department from 1st September 1922, the date on which the cost of copy stamps was raised from 2 annas to 3 annas; if the answer be in the affirmative, the reason which led to the subsequent withdrawal of their orders by disallowing the arrears of pay from 1st September 1922 for about nine months;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Government have not yet permitted the actual drawing of the increased pay by these subordinates and, if the answer be in the affirmative, when Government propose to sanction the same and why there has been a long delay in the matter; and

(d) whether the nature of duties performed by the clerks in the Registration Department and those of the copyists in the Judicial Department varies?

A.—(a) No.

(b) Yes; back pay for about nine months was not allowed as final orders in the case were issued only on 29th May 1923.

(c) The Government have already issued orders in the matter.

(d) Yes.



[4th February 1925]

*Retention of the District Court, East Tanjore.*

69 Q.—MR. V. HAMID SULTAN MARAKKAYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Government have extended the period of retention of the District Court, East Tanjore, further by one year;
- (b) whether the Government have not yet satisfied themselves as to the necessity of making East Tanjore District Court a permanent one; and
- (c) whether it is not a fact that the District Judge, West Tanjore, and District Judge, East Tanjore, as well, have recommended the permanent retention of the District Court, East Tanjore, in view of the heavy work in both the Courts?

- A.—(a) The retention of the District Court, East Tanjore, has been sanctioned up to the end of 1925.
- (b) The question as to whether the court should be made permanent has not yet been finally decided by Government.
- (c) The District Judge, East Tanjore, recommended the permanent retention of the court. The District Judge, West Tanjore, did not submit a report on this question though he advised against the abolition of the court.

*Official Receivership in Tanjore district.*

70 Q.—MR. V. HAMID SULTAN MARAKKAYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether there is any proposal to bifurcate the Official Receivership of the Tanjore district and appoint one separately for East Tanjore district; and
- (b) whether the District Judge and the Bar Association have requested Government to sanction the entertainment of a separate Official Receiver for East Tanjore?

- A.—(a) Yes.
- (b) The District Judge has made a recommendation to the High Court for the appointment, but the Government have no information in regard to any representation made by the Bar Association.

*Stamp for copies furnished by village panchayat courts.*

71 Q.—MR. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

- (a) if the Government are aware that there is difference in practice and opinion as to whether copies furnished by village panchayat courts are to be on plain paper or on stamped paper; and
- (b) whether, to remove doubts, Government will issue instructions to all village panchayat courts that in virtue of the notifications under section 35 of the Court Fees Act, dated 17th October 1921, such copies do not require stamp paper?

- A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no information that there is any doubt on the subject; but they will draw the attention of the officers, etc., concerned to the fact that copies furnished by village panchayat courts are exempt from payment of court-fees.



4th February 1925]

*Work in the Subordinate Judges' Courts in Godavari district.*

72 Q.—Mr. P. PEDDIRAJU : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that there is not sufficient work for three Subordinate Judges' Courts in the Godavari district ;

(b) if there are any proposals for the abolition of one of the said three courts, and if so, which court is proposed to be abolished ; and

(c) whether there are any proposals for the bifurcation of civil jurisdiction in the Kistna district along with the bifurcation of the district ; if so, where the district court for the New West Godavari district will be located, either temporarily or permanently ?

A.—(a) No.

(b) The question was considered by the Government in June 1924 and the decision reached was that none of the courts could be abolished. The matter will come under review again.

(c) The question of bifurcating the Kistna district for judicial purposes is under the consideration of the Government.

*Disposal of moneys deposited to the credit of decree-holders.*

73 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether large amounts of minors' properties, realizations from insolvents' estates, and moneys deposited to the credit of decree-holders lie idle without earning any increment ?

A.—The Government have no information. The hon. Member is referred to section 112, Presidency Towns Insolvency Act, 1909.

*Process establishment.*

74 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether the process establishment is being maintained on the principle that it must be self-supporting ?

A.—No such rule has been laid down, but all charges on account of the process-service establishment are debited to the "Process Service Fund".

**Elections.**

*Votes of illiterate voters in the Legislative Council elections.*

75 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether the Government are aware of the publicity given to the votes of illiterate voters who choose to exercise their franchise in the elections to the Legislative Council, and if so, the steps they propose to take to avoid the same ?

A.—The Government consider that the method now in force for recording the votes of illiterate electors is more satisfactory than others proposed in the past ; they will however be glad to consider any suggestions for improving it.



[4th February 1925]

**Irrigation.***The Purikulam tank in Srivilliputtur taluk.*

76 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) at what stage the question of raising the F.T.L., Purikulam tank, Public Works Department, Watrap, Srivilliputtur taluk, is now;

(b) whether any further action was taken after the last interpellation in this Council on 13th October 1924;

(c) whether the work is likely to be executed early in the next official year;

(d) whether it is a fact that ryots in the ayacut of the tank have already purchased foreshore lands for water-spread even so long ago as 1910 and intimated the Collector about it then;

(e) whether it is a fact that some of the ryots executed even indemnity bonds and have registered them;

(f) whether it is a fact that, pending this scheme, even ordinary earth-work or repairs to the bund have not been done for the last ten or fifteen years; and

(g) whether any orders have been issued to the Superintending Engineer, Trichinopoly, and Executive Engineer of the division to commence the work at an early date?

A.—(a) & (b) An estimate for raising the level of Purikulam tank has been prepared and is expected to be sanctioned shortly.

(c) & (g) Funds have not been allotted for this work.

(d) It is understood that the ryots have already purchased the foreshore lands. Government have no information as to the date of purchase.

(e) This is believed to be the case.

(f) It is reported that repairs have been postponed pending execution of the new work.

*Alleged scarcity of irrigation water in Poonathangal village.*

77 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that when the Poonathangal eri in Cheyyar taluk, North Arcot district, was abandoned in 1905, thirty pipe-channels were introduced to serve thirty villages;

(b) whether Poonathangal village is the last one to get its supply from this eri and whether in consequence there is scarcity of irrigation water in this village every year;

(c) whether the villagers have been petitioning the District Collector and the Executive Engineer from the year 1906 to 1909 and the Board of Revenue on 19th October 1910;

(d) whether it is a fact that the villagers were promised that the abandoned tank of Poonathangal would be repaired if one-third cost is borne by the villagers and whether the villagers agreed to this; and

(e) when Government propose to repair the eri?

A.—(a) to (d) The Government have no information.

(e) The Government have no such proposal before them.



4th February 1925]

*Readings at the important river-heads of the Tanjore delta.*

78 Q.—MR. C. MARUTHAVANAM PILLAI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) the date or dates on which the major breaches in the Cauvery and Coleroon heads occurred in 1924;

(b) the daily or weekly readings at the important river-heads of the Tanjore delta since the time of the occurrence of the breaches till 1st December 1924; and

(c) the corresponding readings for the previous year?

A.—(a) They occurred on, or within a few days of, the first occurrence of the flood.

(b) & (c) The gauge readings at the Grand Anicut are available and will be supplied to the hon. Member if he desires, but these give no indication of the relative conditions, as in 1924 the Tanjore delta was partly supplied through the old Vennar head which was re-opened for the purpose, and no gauge readings for this discharge are available.

**Finance.**

*Irregularities pointed out in "The Madras Audit Report for 1922-23".*

79 Q.—SRIMAN BISWANATH DAS MAHASAYO: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the sum of Rs. 33,37,000 placed under objection being substantial deviations from rules pointed out in Part I, Section I, of the Madras Audit Report for 1922-23 has now been adjusted; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to avoid a recurrence of such irregularities?

A.—(a) The sum of Rs. 33.37 lakhs referred to represents the net expenditure relating to the year 1922-23 placed under objection by the Accountant-General on account of deviations from rules. Most of these objections were cleared before the end of the year 1922-23. The total amount of objections outstanding from that year on 31st July 1923 was 4.05 lakhs and this had been reduced by 31st July 1924 to Rs. 1,000. The Accountant-General has reported that this is made up of 12 items about the clearance of which adequate action is being taken.

(b) The figures show an appreciable improvement from year to year and the Government do not consider any special steps to be necessary.

**Famine.**

*The administration of famine-relief.*

80 Q.—MR. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Finance and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is not the policy of the Famine administration that the local officers should be in charge of the famine-relief operations;

(b) whether special officers appointed are not to be in charge of office routine leaving the original officer to administer famine-relief; and



[4th February 1925]

(c) whether the special famine officer appointed in Anantapur was put in charge of the famine-operations and the Collector relieved of his personal responsibilities in the matter?

A.—(a) & (b) Yes as far as practicable.

(c) The hon. Member presumably refers to the appointment of Mr. Wood. This officer, as Sub-Collector had, previously to his appointment as special assistant to the Collector, been in charge of the famine-relief operations in his own division and his appointment as special assistant did not relieve the Collector of his personal responsibility.

### Collectorates.

#### *Muhammadan representation in the Ganjam Collectorate.*

81 Q.—Mr. MUHAMMAD MOOSA SAIT: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) with reference to answer given to question No. 80 (1), (3) and (4), whether the Government will be pleased to call for the information;

(b) with reference to answer given to question No. 80 (6) whether the Government will be pleased to specify the encouragement given so far to the first Muhammadan graduate by the Collector of Ganjam;

(c) whether it is not a fact that no Muhammadan in Ganjam district during the last 45 years rose to the position of a taluk head accountant or taluk sarishtadar or tahsildar;

(d) whether there are any Muhammadans now qualified for the posts; and

(e) why they were not promoted in spite of the fact that no Muhammadan rose to the higher positions in the district?

A.—(a) The information asked for in clause (1) of question No. 80 referred to was given in the answer to that question. The Government do not propose to call for the information asked for in clauses (3) and (4) of that question which cover a period of forty years.

(b) The first Muhammadan graduate referred to was confirmed as Revenue Inspector as soon as he joined service in 1921 and the latest Revenue establishment list of the district corrected up to 1st April 1924 shows that on that date he was doing duty as Special Revenue Inspector on Rs. 60 for railway land acquisition in Ichchapuram taluk.

(c) The Government have no information.

(d) The latest establishment list of the district shows that two Muhammadans are technically qualified for the posts named.

(e) Of the three senior Muhammadans in the district one is a Sub-Magistrate on other duty in the Co-operative department on Rs. 250, another is an unpassed man exempted from the examination rules to hold permanent Revenue Inspector's post in the Agency, while the third is a clerk of barely three years' service.



4th February 1925]

*List of persons eligible for deputy tahsildar's post.*

82 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that Collectors maintain a list of men approved by the Board of Revenue, eligible for the deputy tahsildar's post;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the Board of Revenue has recently (this year) ordered the removal from that list the names of some men included in the previous years on the mere ground that they have passed the age of 45;
- (c) how many of these men are graduates and how many are under-graduates; and
- (d) how many of these men have already acted in the deputy tahsildar's grade and had to revert to their permanent appointments for want of vacancies and not for any misconduct?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The Board of Revenue intimated to Collectors in 1921 that it was not prepared to approve the inclusion or retention in the list of men who were too old to be fit for the active duties of a deputy tahsildar. Names are on this ground periodically removed from the list.

(c) The names of seven graduates and seven under-graduates were removed during 1924.

(d) Six.

**Irrigation.**

*Irrigation tanks and rivers in South Kanara.*

83 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to refer to his answer No. 586 given on 10th October 1924 and to state—

- (a) the number of irrigation tanks owned by Government or under Government control in South Kanara;
- (b) where they are situated and the approximate area each one of them irrigates;
- (c) whether any irrigation cess is levied in this connexion;
- (d) the number of temporary bunds or embankments constructed on the several rivers by villagers at their own cost and with their own labour for irrigation purposes;
- (e) subject to what conditions and restrictions such bunds are allowed to be constructed; and
- (f) whether there have been any cases in which the District Magistrates or other Magistrates have had to order breaking up of the bunds during the last three years; and if so, under what circumstances and on what grounds?

A.—(a) None.

(b) & (c) Do not arise.

(d), (e) & (f) The temporary dams were constructed by the ryots of certain villages, on the Gurpur and Mulki rivers, about the end of November 1923, for the irrigation of second crop. As the existence of the dams was objected to by the ryots of other villages and by merchants, they were ordered to be removed after personal inspection by the Collector and the Revenue Divisional Officer, Mangalore, respectively.



[4th February 1925]

**Land Revenue.***Interest on arrears of kists.*

84 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether interest is being levied on arrears of kists on revenues from February last and, if so, the reasons why?

A.—Under section 7 of Act II of 1864 arrears bear interest from the date on which they fall due.

In practice, however, interest is not generally collected on arrears paid within the fasli, but Collectors may at their discretion enforce payment of interest.

On 16th February 1924 the Collector of Tanjore issued an order for the levy of interest on arrears due in that fasli. The object of the order was the prompt collection of outstandings in that fasli.

The Government is not aware of any other similar order now current.

*Defaulters of kist of the last fasli in the Tanjore district.*

85 Q.—Mr. V. PANTULU AYYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the number of mirasidars in the district of Tanjore and the total acreage for the entire district in wet lands;

(b) the number of defaulters in the last fasli who did not pay the kist before the end of April;

(c) in how many cases were demand notices served, attachment proceedings taken and movables and immovables sold in auction; and

(d) the corresponding figures asked for in (b) and (c) in respect of the previous fasli?

A.—(a) The Government have no information as to the number of mirasidars in the Tanjore district. The total number of joint and single pattas was 303,134 according to the quinquennial statement appended to the jamabandi report for fasli 1330. The total extent of wet lands in fasli 1332 was 775,328 acres.

(b) & (c) The Government have not yet received the jamabandi report for fasli 1333, which will contain the information asked for. The report, when received, will be placed on the Editors' Table.

(d) The hon. Member is referred to statement No. 12 appended to the jamabandi report for fasli 1332 which was placed on the Editors' Table.

**Village Establishments.***Report of the Special Officer on the regrouping of villages.*

86 Q.—Mr. C. GOPALA MENON: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to lay on the table of this House—

(a) the report received from M.R.Ry. Diwan Bahadur R. Ramachandra Rao Avargal, Special Officer, appointed by Government to investigate and report on the advisability of cancelling the regrouping of vattams effected in the various districts in this Presidency with the orders passed thereon by Government; and



4th February 1925]

(b) in view of the hardships caused to the village officers thrown out of employment by the regrouping of vattams in the various districts whether the hon. Member will be pleased to state when the regrouping will be cancelled and the thrown-out hands restored to their respective posts?

A.—(a) Mr. Ramachandra Rao's report is in the form of an office-note and is not suitable for publication. A summary<sup>a</sup> of his recommendations is laid on the table. He did not deal with village establishments in proprietary areas.

(b) The matter is under consideration and will be taken up as soon as practicable.

### Local Boards and Municipal Councils.

#### *Toll-gates between Cannanore and Kuppam Katavu.*

87 Q.—Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there are no less than three toll-gates and two ferries between Cannanore and Kuppam Katavu on the Cannanore-Payyanur Road via Taliparamba in North Malabar—a distance of 15 miles;

(b) whether two of the toll-gates at Pappinissen and Kuttikal were opened recently and whether these were opened merely to get more revenue;

(c) whether it is a fact that toll is collected at Pappinissen even from poor farmers when they pass daily through the toll with their bullocks to their fields adjoining for ploughing; and

(d) whether the two tolls referred to in clause (b) were opened with the sanction of the Government?

A.—(a) to (c) The Government have no information.

(d) The question does not arise.

#### *The Local Boards Act.*

88 Q.—Mr. V. HAMID SULTAN MARAKKAYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Local Boards Act is to be amended shortly;

(b) whether the rates allowed for railway journeys by president, taluk boards, and vice-president, district boards, are less than those allowed to members; and

(c) if the answer to clause (b) be in the affirmative the special reasons therefor?

A.—(a) The answer is in the affirmative.

(b) The answer is in the negative.

(c) The question does not arise.

#### *Manner of election of members of taluk boards to district boards.*

89 Q.—Mr. K. RAGHUCHANDRA BALLAL: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) (i) whether the rules framed under the Local Boards Act of 1920 and revised under G.O. Notification of May 1921 are obligatory on the presidents of taluk boards in the matter of electing members of such boards to the district boards;

<sup>a</sup> Printed as Appendix I on pages 259-260 infra.



[4th February 1925]

(ii) whether presidents of taluk boards are not bound to report fully to the Government or any other authority as to the manner in which such elections are held, while reporting the results ;

(b) (i) whether the Government are aware that on 26th November 1924 the President of the Mangalore Taluk Board held an election to elect two members from the said board to the District Board of South Kanara ;

(ii) whether the Government are aware that the President of the Mangalore Taluk Board contravened rule 7 of the aforesaid rules by supplying, to members who wished to vote, blank slips of paper without printing or typing the names of all taluk board members and asking the members to write out with their hand on the said slips the names of the candidates whom they wished to vote for ;

(c) (i) whether the Government are aware that the said president misread or never read out rule 9 of the said rules to the meeting and misrepresented that candidates for election were not entitled to vote ;

(ii) whether it is not a fact that owing to such misrepresentation of the president the candidates for election never voted at all ;

(d) whether the Government have any objection to ascertain whether such departures have been made by presidents of other taluk boards in the Presidency ; and

(e) in case of any such instances being found, whether the Government have any objection to call the attention of the presidents concerned to the gravity of the matter and to issue a Government Order urging upon a strict observance of such rules ?

A.—(a) (i) The answer is in the affirmative.

(ii) The answer is in the negative.

(b) & (c) The Government have no information. If the rules were contravened in the course of the election, the remedy lies in the presentation of a petition to the Civil Court in accordance with the rules framed by Government in that behalf.

(d) & (e) The Government do not consider that any useful purpose would be served by such an enquiry.

*The Dindigul municipality.*

90 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the right to elect its chairman was withdrawn from Dindigul municipality and, if so, on what day ;

(b) the total number of the meetings held by the said municipality in 1924 before the said withdrawal of the elective franchise and the total number of meetings which were adjourned without transaction of any business except the two convened on 16th May 1924 and 19th May 1924 ;

(c) whether there were any factions in the said municipal council and if so when they began and when they ended and whether any business was transacted by the council during the factionous period and if so, whether there was anything objectionable or illegal or irregular with regard to the business so transacted ;

(d) whether any councillors behaved scandalously and if so who they were and on what dates they so behaved and what is the particular conduct in each of them which was so characterised by the Government ;



4th February 1925]

(e) whether the objectionable behaviour of the councillors was reported to the Government by the chairman, whether any action was taken by the Government against the erring councillors and if so what it was ;

(f) whether they would be pleased to place the chairman's report in the above matter, if any, and the final orders thereon on the table of the House ;

(g) whether the said councillors are still continuing as such or whether they have vacated seats and if so how they vacated ; and

(h) whether the council as constituted on the date of the nomination of a chairman thereto was deemed competent to discharge its functions properly ?

A.—(a) The notification withdrawing the elective privilege was published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* of 11th November 1924.

(b) to (h) The matter having been fully discussed at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on 5th December 1924, the Government see no need to furnish any further information or to lay any papers on the table.

*Ground of withdrawal of the right to elect the chairman to the Dindigul Municipal Council.*

91 Q.—MR. G. RAMESWARA RAO : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the presentation of an address to Moulana Shaukat Ali by the Municipal Council, Dindigul, was a ground for depriving the council of its right to elect its chairman ;

(b) whether there were any cases of omission or commission in the conduct of the municipal council which showed that the council was incompetent to discharge its duties ; and

(c) whether any steps were taken by the Government to change the constitution of council and if so what they were ?

A.—(a) The answer is in the negative.

(b) & (c) The matter having been fully discussed at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on 5th December 1924, the Government see no need to furnish any further information.

*The election of chairman to the Dindigul Municipal Council.*

92 Q.—MR. G. RAMESWARA RAO : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether two persons contend that each of them was duly elected Municipal Chairman of Dindigul in May 1924 and whether they were advised by Government on 10th June 1924 to establish their claims in civil court ;

(b) whether, when the matter was sub-judice, the Government nominated a chairman for the municipality before the civil courts finally decided the matter ; and

(c) what are the reasons which necessitated this change in the attitude of the Government between 10th June 1924 and the date of nominating the chairman ?



[4th February 1925]

4.—(a) & (b) The answer is in the affirmative.

(c) The privilege of electing its chairman had to be withdrawn from the council. The Government had therefore to appoint a chairman.

*Local boards and municipalities in which collections were slack.*

93 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state the names of the local boards and the municipalities in which the collections were slack as stated in G.O. No. 2769, L. & M., of 4th October 1924, with the names of the Presidents in each case and whether they were elected or nominated?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to paragraph 16 of the consolidated audit report of municipalities and local boards for 1922-23 in G.O. No. 2769, L. & M., dated the 4th October 1924, which has been placed on the Editors' Table. It is presumed that the hon. Member wants information about municipal councils as the paragraph quoted above does not relate to local boards. Out of eighty councils only one collected more than 90 per cent of the arrear demand.

Forty-one councils collected less than 90 per cent of the current demand. Details are subjoined—

Number of councils which collected less than 90 per cent but over 85 per cent.	20
Number of councils which collected less than 85 per cent but over 80 per cent.	12
Number of councils which collected less than 80 per cent but over 75 per cent.	2
Number of councils which collected less than 75 per cent but over 70 per cent.	2
Number of councils which collected less than 70 per cent.	5

—  
41  
—

The percentages of collection to demand in the case of the five councils which collected less than 70 per cent are—

Anantapur	...	...	...	...	61.0 per cent.
Berhampur	...	...	...	...	67.8 "
Salem	...	...	...	...	59.3 "
Tiruvallur	...	...	...	...	53.6 "
Srirangam	...	...	...	...	56.7 "

All the 41 councils except one, the circumstances of which were special, had elected Chairmen. The Government consider that no useful purpose will be served by furnishing particulars as to the names of the Chairmen of the councils which collected less than 90 per cent of their revenues.



4th February 1925]

*The powers of a district board president to fine his subordinates.*

94 Q.—MR. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the president of a district board has, under the present system, unlimited powers of fining subordinates and effecting recoveries from them;

(b) what is the maximum amount of fine imposed and maximum amount of recovery effected or ordered to be effected within the last four years by any such president in any single case;

(c) whether, under the present system, there is no right of appeal to local board subordinates in such cases; and

(d) whether, the advisability of giving some protection to local board subordinates in this matter has been considered in amending the Local Boards Act?

A.—(a) The powers of a president to fine his subordinates are limited only by section 74 of the Local Boards Act and rule 12 of the Rules for the appointment and punishment of local board servants.

(b) The Government have no information.

(c) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to rule 12 of the Rules for the appointment and punishment of local board servants published on pages 433—435 of Part I-A of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 25th September 1923.

(d) The Government do not consider that any such amendment of the Madras Local Boards Act is necessary.

*Acquisition of land for a public market in Edathiruthi, Malabar.*

95 Q.—MR. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to refer to Government notification No. 979, dated 30th September 1924, published in Part I-A, page 431 of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 30th September 1924, notifying that 'whereas a plot of land measuring 64 cents belonging to one Alappadan Lonnappan in the village of Edathiruthi, Ponnani taluk, Malabar district, is needed for a public purpose, viz., for a public market, notice to that effect is given under section 4 (1) of the Land Acquisition Act, that Government authorizes the Revenue Divisional Officer and his subordinates to exercise the powers under section 4 (2) of the Act', and to inquire and state—

(a) whether the site of the proposed market is closed to the so-called Kattur market in the Cochin State on the opposite bank of the Connolly canal;

(b) the notification alluded to having been issued under section 4 (1) of the Land Acquisition Act, why have Government gone so far as to declare the land 'is needed' for a public purpose instead of saying that it 'is likely to be needed' as required by that section; and

(c) whether representations have been made by the Vicar, Raikars and Parishioners of the Edathiruthi church and by the Chaplain of the nuns of the convent protesting against the selection of the site?

A.—(a) From a petition received from the Rev. Mother and Sisters of the St. Ann's Convent at Edathiruthi, it would appear that the fact is as stated.



[4th February 1925]

(ii) whether presidents of taluk boards are not bound to report fully to the Government or any other authority as to the manner in which such elections are held, while reporting the results ;

(b) (i) whether the Government are aware that on 26th November 1924 the President of the Mangalore Taluk Board held an election to elect two members from the said board to the District Board of South Kanara ;

(ii) whether the Government are aware that the President of the Mangalore Taluk Board contravened rule 7 of the aforesaid rules by supplying, to members who wished to vote, blank slips of paper without printing or typing the names of all taluk board members and asking the members to write out with their hand on the said slips the names of the candidates whom they wished to vote for ;

(c) (i) whether the Government are aware that the said president misread or never read out rule 9 of the said rules to the meeting and misrepresented that candidates for election were not entitled to vote ;

(ii) whether it is not a fact that owing to such misrepresentation of the president the candidates for election never voted at all ;

(d) whether the Government have any objection to ascertain whether such departures have been made by presidents of other taluk boards in the Presidency ; and

(e) in case of any such instances being found, whether the Government have any objection to call the attention of the presidents concerned to the gravity of the matter and to issue a Government Order urging upon a strict observance of such rules ?

A.—(a) (i) The answer is in the affirmative.

(ii) The answer is in the negative.

(b) & (c) The Government have no information. If the rules were contravened in the course of the election, the remedy lies in the presentation of a petition to the Civil Court in accordance with the rules framed by Government in that behalf.

(d) & (e) The Government do not consider that any useful purpose would be served by such an enquiry.

*The Dindigul municipality.*

90 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the right to elect its chairman was withdrawn from Dindigul municipality and, if so, on what day ;

(b) the total number of the meetings held by the said municipality in 1924 before the said withdrawal of the elective franchise and the total number of meetings which were adjourned without transaction of any business except the two convened on 16th May 1924 and 19th May 1924 ;

(c) whether there were any factions in the said municipal council and if so when they began and when they ended and whether any business was transacted by the council during the factionous period and if so, whether there was anything objectionable or illegal or irregular with regard to the business so transacted ;

(d) whether any councillors behaved scandalously and if so who they were and on what dates they so behaved and what is the particular conduct in each of them which was so characterised by the Government ;



4th February 1925]

**Education.**

*Admission into the Teachers' College, Saidapet.*

98 Q.—MR. V. HAMID SULTAN MARAKKAYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is not sufficient accommodation in the Teachers' College, Saidapet, for affording professional training to graduates and men of higher qualifications;
- (b) whether it is a fact that many are being refused admission;
- (c) whether persons who have had not much experience in educational institutions are selected in preference to persons who have had a large experience;
- (d) the principle on which selections are made; and
- (e) if the answer to question (a) be in the affirmative, what steps the Government propose to take to remedy the same?

A.—(a) & (e) There is accommodation for about 100 students for training for the L.T. degree and this is the maximum number that can properly be trained in any one year in a single institution. The construction of a science and mathematics block to provide for additional admissions in Science and Mathematics in place of an equal number of admissions for training in literary subjects is under consideration.

(b) Yes.

(c) No.

(d) The principles on which selections are made are laid down on page 24 of the Calendar of the Teachers' College, Saidapet.

*Proposals for expansion of the Vizagapatam Engineering School.*

99 Q.—MR. P. PEDDIRAJU: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether there are any proposals for expanding the Vizagapatam Engineering School into a fully equipped Engineering College; if so, when the proposals are likely to be given effect to?

A.—The answer to the first part of the question is in the negative. The second part does not arise.

**Excise.**

*Location and number of liquor shops in the jurisdiction of local bodies.*

100 Q.—MR. C. GOPALA MENON: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that a circular letter was sent by the President of the Madras Temperance League to local bodies and municipalities requesting them to adopt a few draft resolutions relating to the question of location and number of liquor shops situated within their jurisdiction;
- (b) whether it is a fact that a large number of local bodies and municipalities have either partially or wholly adopted the draft resolutions;
- (c) how many of these bodies have communicated their views to the Government; what action they propose to take on them; and
- (d) whether the Government will be pleased to lay on the table the names of the local bodies and municipalities which have complied with the request of the Temperance League?



[4th February 1925]

A.—(a) &amp; (b) Yes.

(c) Twenty-two have adopted the resolutions and communicated their views to Government. The Excise Committee has still to consider the evidence and other proposals before it. No final decision has therefore been taken.

(d) Local Boards.

District Board.—Cuddapah.

Taluk Boards.—Tanjore, Vriddhachalam, Ernad, Narsapur, Tuticorin, Tiratturaipundi, Dharmapuri, Gobichettipalayam, Bhimavaram, Saidapet, Tiruvannamalai and Tirukkoyilur.

Municipal Councils.—Cocanada, Tirupur, Tadpatri, Proddattur, Gudiyattam, Vaniyambadi, Corjeevaram, Periyakulam and Nellore.

*Inquiry regarding reduction in the use of intoxicants.*

101 Q.—MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Excise Advisory Committee has completed its inquiry regarding the reduction in the use of intoxicants in the Presidency;

(b) whether it has published its report on the question, and if the report has not yet been received or published, when it is likely to be received and published;

(c) whether the record of inquiry and evidence taken will be placed on the table of the House; and

(d) if the Committee has sent its report, what its recommendations are and whether the Government have accepted or propose to accept any or all of its recommendations?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) No. The Committee has still to consider the evidence recorded and other proposals before drafting a report. It will meet shortly for this purpose.

(c) The question of publication will be considered when the enquiry and report are completed.

(d) Does not arise.

**Co-operation.**

*Assistant Registrars of Co-operative Societies recruited from the Revenue Department.*

102 Q.—MR. MUHAMMAD MOOSA SAIT: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the number of men recruited from the Revenue Department as Assistant Registrars and Registrars of Co-operative Societies excluding the permanent Deputy Collectors;

(b) of these how many are qualified for the Deputy Collectors' posts;

(c) whether they are all taken in the cadre of the non-Deputy Collector Assistant Registrars;

(d) if so, why an invidious distinction in grade was made; and

(e) whether the Government intend retaining them in the department as Deputy Registrars in view of the fact that they have put in considerable services in the Revenue Department?



4th February 1925]

- A.—(a) There are now three officers of the Revenue Department below the grade of Deputy Collector who have been appointed Assistant Registrars.
- (b) One.
- (c) There is no distinct cadre recognized 'as non-Deputy Collector Assistant Registrars'.
- (d) No invidious distinction in grade is made. All Assistant Registrars who are not permanent or acting Deputy Collectors are paid Rs. 250 per mensem.
- (e) The Government have not yet considered the question.

*Muhammadan Deputy Collector Assistant Registrars of Co-operative Societies.*

103 Q.—MR. MUHAMMAD MOOSA SAIT: With reference to answer given on 21st August 1924 to question No. 325, will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state why no steps were taken to recruit any other qualified Muhammadan as a Deputy Collector Assistant Registrar of Co-operative Societies, when the one recruited did not continue to work?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the answer given to question No. 1549 in December 1924.

*The position of the District Central Co-operative Banks.*

104 Q.—MR. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is the policy of the Government to develop the District Central Co-operative Banks to the position of the branches of the Imperial Bank and do all the transactions of the Government through the former; and
- (b) what steps have been taken or proposed to be taken to achieve the end?

A.—(a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

## II

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT OF THE BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE TO DISCUSS THE HINDU RELIGIOUS ENDOWMENTS ACT.

[*Note.*—An asterisk (\*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU:—"Sir, I beg to ask leave to make a motion for adjournment of the business of the Council for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent matter of public importance before the list of business for the day is entered upon to-day, arising out of the situation created by the assent being given in a half-hearted way to the Hindu Religious Endowments Act, 1925, by His Excellency the Governor-General, to wit, that no part of the Act shall be brought into force or put into operation anywhere in this Presidency until the said Act is considered by His Majesty in Council under section 82 of the Government of India Act and unless and until it is amended in a manner indicated by His Excellency the Governor-General and otherwise so as to rid it of all its objectionable features."